

House Bill 929

By: Representatives Lane of the 158th, Crawford of the 127th, Smith of the 70th, McCall of the 30th, Roberts of the 154th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 12-6-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to powers and duties of the State Forestry Commission generally and volunteer services, so as to provide for additional powers of the commission; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 12-6-5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to powers and duties of the State Forestry Commission generally and volunteer services, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) The commission shall have power and authority:

(1) To take all action appropriate to foster, improve, and encourage reforestation;

(2) To engage in research and other projects for the ascertainment and promulgation of better forestry practices;

(3) To offer aid, assistance, and technical advice to landowners relative to the preservation and culture of forests;

(4) To receive gifts or donations made to it and to expend the same under the terms of such gifts or donations;

(5) To conduct and direct fire prevention work and maintain equipment, personnel, and installations for the detection, prevention, and combating thereof;

(6) To publish and distribute the results of its research and investigations;

(7) To provide forestry related educational programs;

~~(7)(8)~~ To cooperate and contract with other agencies and instrumentalities of government, either county, municipal, state, or national, and with private persons or concerns for the advancement of the forests of this state; and

(9) To provide other occasional services or assistance to other government entities or to private persons, including but not limited to loggers or tree planters, when the provision

1 of such other services or assistance does not significantly interfere with or detract from
2 the commission's functions under other paragraphs of this subsection and subject to the
3 requirement that fees in such amounts as established by rule or regulation shall be paid
4 by private persons to the commission to cover the commission's reasonable costs incurred
5 in providing such other services or assistance to such private persons."

6 **SECTION 2.**

7 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.